

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating radiation induced enteritis comprising, administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of balsalazide.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered at least one day prior to the subject's first dose of radiotherapy.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered at least five days prior to the subject's first dose of radiotherapy.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered during radiation therapy.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered for at least one day after the cessation of radiation therapy.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered for fourteen days after the cessation of radiation therapy.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered from at least one day prior to the first dose of radiotherapy until at least one day after the cessation of radiation therapy.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject received radiotherapy as a result of treatment for gastrointestinal malignancies, including colorectal, appendiceal, anal, or small bowel cancers; urogenital malignancies, including prostate, bladder, testicular, or penile cancers; gynecologic malignancies, including cervical, endometrial, ovarian, vaginal, or vulvar cancers; or osteogenic and other sarcomatous malignancies in which pelvic structures are involved.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered

twice daily to the subject.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein from between about 3,000mg to about 5000mg of balsalazide is administered to the subject daily.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the balsalazide is administered to the subject from between about 8 weeks to about 12 weeks.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has acute radiation enteritis.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the radiation induced enteritis is caused by radiation therapy in combination with chemotherapy or a surgical procedure.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered at least one day prior to the subject's first dose of radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or prior to undergoing a surgical procedure.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered at least five days prior to the subject's first dose of radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or prior to undergoing a surgical procedure.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered during radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or the surgical procedure.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered for at least one day after the cessation of radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or after the surgical procedure.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered for fourteen days after the cessation of radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or after the surgical procedure.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered from at least one day prior to the first dose of radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or prior to undergoing the surgical procedure until at least one day after the cessation of radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or the surgical procedure.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the subject received radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or surgical procedure as a result of treatment for gastrointestinal malignancies, including colorectal, appendiceal, anal, or small bowel cancers; urogenital malignancies, including prostate, bladder, testicular, or penile cancers; gynecologic malignancies, including cervical, endometrial, ovarian, vaginal, or vulvar cancers; or osteogenic and other sarcomatous malignancies in which pelvic structures are involved.

21. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered twice daily to the subject.

22. The method of claim 13, wherein from between about 3,000mg to about 5000mg of balsalazide is administered to the subject daily.

23. The method of claim 13, wherein the balsalazide is administered to the subject from between about 8 weeks to about 12 weeks.

24. A method of protecting against radiation induced enteritis comprising, administering to a subject before, during, and/or after undergoing radiation therapy a therapeutically effective amount of balsalazide.

25. A method of protecting against radiation induced injury to the mucosa of the colon comprising, administering to a subject before, during, and/or after undergoing radiation therapy a therapeutically effective amount of balsalazide.

26. A method of protecting against radiation induced colorectal inflammation comprising, administering to a subject before, during, and/or after undergoing radiation therapy a therapeutically effective amount of balsalazide.